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Via ECFS
Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: In the Matter of Petition of USTelecom for Forbearance Pursuant to
47 U.S.C. Section 160(c); WC Docket No. 18-141; Category 1**

Dear FCC,

US Telecom claims that residential customers won't be hurt if section 251(c)(3) of the 1996 Telecommunications Act isn't followed. That's false! Our family would be harmed. They say there are no other carriers. That's false! We use a great one.

Our family has long used internet and telephone services which are competitive with the main carrier in our area, AT&T. If the rule requiring lines to be available to competitors is dropped, we would not be able to use the friendly, local, competitively priced ISP and phone provider we now use. We'd be forced to use AT&T which has a terrible reputation for service and which I've experienced in other locales as inferior. This law allows there to be competition and ending it would mean no competition for these monopolistic giants.

How will allowing such providers to become monopolies in their regions help anyone other than the monopolies? It's a market failure right out of Econ 1.

Preventing and regulating monopoly power is one of the important functions of a government in a capitalist society. Please FCC, do your job and keep this rule in place.

Justin Lehrer